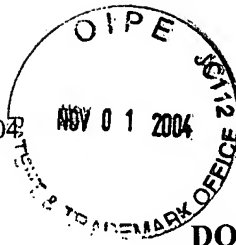


Appl. No. 10/037,977  
Amdt. Dated: October 28, 2004  
Reply to Office Action of October 1, 2004



3737  
IFV

**PATENT**  
**DOCKET NO. 1273 CIP CON FWC CON III**  
**(203-589 CIP CON FWC CON III)**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

**APPLICANTS:** David Nicholas, et al.      **EXAMINER:** Sarah K Webb  
**SERIAL NO.:** 10/037,977      **ART UNIT:** 3731  
**FILED:** November 9, 2001      **DATED:** October 28, 2004  
**FOR:** **ARTICULATING ENDOSCOPIC SURGICAL APPARATUS**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450  
**Mail Stop Amendment**

**RESPONSE TO NOTICE OF NON-COMPLIANT AMENDMENT**

Sir:

In response to the Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment dated October 1, 2004,  
submitted herewith is the corrected AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS section.

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the  
application:

---

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.8(a)**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail,  
postpaid in an envelope, addressed to the: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on  
October 28, 2004.

Dated: October 28 2004

Christopher G. Trainor  
Christopher G. Trainor